



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office
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Vernal, Utah 84078
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:
1300
(UT-08300)3120

July 2, 2008

Memorandum

To: State Director, UT-924
Attention: Teresa Thompson, Terry Catlin

From: Field Manager, Vernal Field Office *William H.*

Subject: August 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale Parcel Recommendations

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) has ten parcels on the preliminary list for the August 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The following recommendations for leasing or deferral of parcels are provided to the BLM Utah State Director.

Ten parcels or pieces of parcels are recommended for deferral pending completion of the Vernal Resource Management Plan. Further information on deferred parcels is contained in Attachment 1. The parcels are as follows:

Parcels and Portions of Parcels Recommended For Deferral

UT0808-084
UT0808-085
UT0808-086
UT0808-087
UT0808-088*
UT0808-089
UT0808-090
UT0808-091
UT0808-092
UT0808-093

*portion of parcel being deferred

The attached Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Worksheet was prepared to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of oil and gas parcels within the administrative boundaries of the VFO for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale. An Interdisciplinary Team review is included as Attachment 2 of the DNA. The recommended parcel and attached stipulations and lease notices are found in Attachment 1 of the DNA. The following one portion of parcel being considered for the August 2008 sale have been determined to be in conformance with existing Land Use Plans, and are recommended to go forward in the lease sale. The VFO DNA addresses only those 4 parcels offered for sale.

Parcels Recommended For Sale

UT0808-088*

*portion of parcel recommended for sale

Additional lease notices were attached to the parcels which were not included on the preliminary offer list submitted by USO on 5/2/08. In accordance with WOIM 2002-174 the following Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation stipulation is to be added to all recommended lease parcels.

“The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.”

In accordance with WOIM 2005-003 Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation for Fluid Minerals Leasing, the cultural stipulation which states the following has been added to all offered lease parcels:

“This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.”

Please contact Holly Villa (435)-781-4404 if you have any questions.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table

Attachment 2 DNA

Worksheet
Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)

U.S. Department of the Interior
Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision; however, it constitutes an administrative record to be provided as evidence in protest, appeals and legal procedures.

A. BLM Office: Vernal Field Office (UT-080)

Proposed Action Title: August 19, 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Location of Proposed Action: Parcels within Uintah County, Utah. Attachment 1 contains legal descriptions for each parcel.

Description of the Proposed Action: The Utah State Office proposes to offer 10 parcels of land in Duchesne and Uintah County, Utah administered by the Vernal Field Office for oil and gas leasing in a competitive lease sale to be held on August 19, 2008. All 10 parcels were assessed for land use plan compliance and NEPA adequacy; it was recommended that only one portion of one of these parcels go forward. Attachment 1 lists all parcels including special lease stipulations and lease notices. This parcel includes public lands or lands in which the mineral estate is administered by the BLM. If a parcel of land is not purchased at the lease sale by competitive bidding, it may still be leased within two years after the initial offering. A lease may be held for ten years, after which the lease expires unless oil or gas is produced in paying quantities. A producing lease can be held indefinitely by economic production.

Planning decisions can place certain lands in a no leasing category. Most lands are leased with minor stipulations attached to the lease from the appropriate land use plan for the area. Some lands are leased with limited areas of no surface occupancy or no leasing within the lease boundaries. Some lands are leased with no stipulations other than those found on the standard lease contract form. A lease grants the right to drill for oil and gas, at some location on the lease, subject to the terms and conditions of the conditions and stipulations.

A lessee must submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) (Form 3160-3) to the BLM for approval and must possess an approved APD prior to any surface disturbance in preparation for drilling. Any stipulations attached to the standard lease form must be complied with before an APD may be approved. Following BLM approval of an APD, a lessee may produce oil and gas from the well in a manner approved by BLM in the APD or in subsequent sundry notices. The operator must notify the appropriate authorized officer, 48 hours before starting any surface disturbing activity approved in the APD.

B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans

LUP Name:

Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah,
approved June 1975

Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (DMRMP/EIS), approved December 21, 1994

Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCRMP/EIS), approved June 3, 1985

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- Environmental Analysis Record on page VIII-1 found no significant adverse impacts to the environment from leasing, and recommended that an environmental impact statement was not necessary.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on page 2-30 and Appendix 2 identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. The DMRMP/EIS' Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the BCRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on pages 7 through 24, identifies those specific lands within the Book Cliffs Resource Area that are available for leasing.

C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

- Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah, approved June 1975
- Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (DMEIS), 1993
- Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCEIS), 1985.
- Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1988.
- Supplement to Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1989.
- Draft Vernal Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement UT-GI-04-001-1610, 2005.
- Supplement to the Draft RMP UT-PL-07-006-1610, October 2007.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., source drinking water assessments, biological assessments, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, rangeland health standard's assessment and determinations, and monitoring report).

REVIEW

State of Utah Sensitive Species List
Interdisciplinary Team Review
Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review

DATE

2007
May 19, 2008
June 2, 2008

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

- 1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?**

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Leasing of the lands described in Attachment 1 was analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS. The proposed action - leasing for oil and gas in the August 2008 sale - is substantially the same as the proposed action analyzed in each of the above environmental documents. Public land would be offered for leasing, and exploration and development for oil and gas resources may occur dependent on specific approval by the BLM and dependent on site-specific NEPA analysis. If land is leased, a lessee would be afforded rights to explore for and to develop oil and gas, subject to the lease terms, regulations, and laws.

The Environmental Analysis Record in Chapter 3, page III-1 described the affected environment. Chapter 4 page IV-1 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. It considered both the no leasing and leasing alternatives.

The BCRMP/EIS, in Chapter 3, page 93, of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) described the affected environment. Chapter 4, page 205, describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD, Chapter 2, pages 7 through 24, provides the decision that identifies lands available for lease.

The DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 3 describes the affected environment. Chapter 4 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD for the DMRMP/EIS, in Chapter 2, page 2-30 and Appendix 2, identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.

- 2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?**

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The 1975 Environmental Analysis Record analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing in the resource area under two alternatives. The two alternatives were leasing and no leasing.

The BCRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing for all lands in the resource area under four different alternatives. The four alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities and varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative ranging from leasing with standard stipulations to not leasing.

The DMRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing on all lands in the resource area under five different alternatives. The five alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities in between varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative.

The alternatives analyzed, and the range of alternatives, covered the entire range of leasing possibilities. That range is still appropriate for this action.

3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) reviewed the preliminary lease parcels through an interdisciplinary (ID) team approach. The specialists review existing NEPA documents to determine potential resource impacts. Resource information provided by agencies or the public is then reviewed by the appropriate resource specialist to determine if the information is new. The specialists provide this information to the decision maker in the form of a resource report. The decision maker then determines if the new information is significant.

The VFO received the draft August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale parcel list on May 2, 2008. Copies of the complete list were provided to the interdisciplinary team on May 7, 2008 to complete data review. On May 19, 2008, the ID team of resource specialists, identified in Part E of this DNA, met to review the preliminary lease parcels. As part of the review process, the alternatives analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record for Oil and Gas Leasing in Vernal, the BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS were reviewed for resource impact from oil and gas leasing. Other manuals and policies were reviewed.

Individual members of the ID team reached conclusions regarding the adequacy of existing NEPA documentation. The review reports and rationale documented by these specialists are found in Attachment 2. The BLM VFO management then conducted an additional multiple-use review to further consider the significance of any new information and/or circumstances in light of the existing oil and gas lease categories, all required stipulations and relevance of information found in the Draft Vernal RMP revision. The results of these reviews for the parcels recommended for sale in the August 2008 lease sale are presented below.

The BLM VFO management considered the following to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of the parcels listed in Attachment 1:

- ✓ Environmental Analysis Record
- ✓ The existing BCRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ The existing DMRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ Applicable laws, regulations and BLM policy
- ✓ Interdisciplinary Team Review Attachment 2
- ✓ Leasing categories
- ✓ The Draft Vernal RMP

Resource information, including new information, none of which is significant is described below.

Cultural Resources: The Following Listed lease sale parcels are proposed for leasing in the August, 2008 lease sale. The purpose of this document is to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 10 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in a list provided by the Utah BLM State Office, Branch of Fluid Minerals, Salt Lake City, Utah in May, 2008 to the Vernal Utah BLM Field Office. The analytic unit/APE is the

lease sale parcel's external boundary as defined in the lease document. The one well per parcel theory is followed in this document.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern.

Based on the May 19, 2008 records search, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one well pad and associated access road can occur without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources on 9 parcels. Parcel 091 has no baseline planning document and should be deferred from auction. The documented cultural resources are located in such a fashion that avoidance is feasible for the development of oil and gas potential therefore the staff archaeologist determined that under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No Historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4" for the August, 2008 oil and gas lease sale. On all parcels, however, once a project specific proposal is submitted and prior to the approval of construction or any ground disturbing activity, an additional Section 106 cultural resource assessment would be completed where site specific issues would be addressed as appropriate. Likewise, the presence of newly found cultural resources in the 9 parcels may cause additional parameters to be placed upon development strategies in areas within the parcels.

To assure appropriate consideration of future effects from the August, 2008 lease sale, the BLM will add the following "lease stipulation" (WO-IM-2005-003), to all parcels offered for lease.

"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." (WO-IM 2005-03).

Environmental Justice: This review is for all parcels – The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian tribes

Invasive, Non-native Species: Noxious weed introduction is limited by standard operating procedures and best management practices used as conditions of approval for surface use authorizations. These practices include, equipment washing, inspections and treatments to limit the spread or introduction of invasive, not-native species.

Native American Religious Concerns: On May 9, 2008 certified consultation letters were sent to the following Tribes: Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe, Navajo Nation, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, Nambe Pueblo, Ute Indian Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. There are no known TCPs within the project area. The letter requested comments to be

provided to the VFO within 30 days after receipt of the letter. The last return receipt received was dated May 23, 2008. On May 27, 2008 a letter from the Navajo Nation tribe was received stating that proposed undertaking/project are will not impact any Navajo traditional cultural properties. However, if any discoveries are made they would like to be contacted. As of June 26, 2008 no concerns pertaining to leasing of the preliminary parcels have been received. Consultation is considered to be closed.

Special Status Species: In consideration of the 10 parcels from preliminary lease sale list for the August 2008 lease sale, a special status animal species and wildlife report and a special status plant species report have been prepared and can be reviewed in attachment 2. All appropriate lease notices and stipulations for federally listed and state sensitive species have been applied where species and/or habitat occur in association with these parcels. In accordance with Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174, all parcels would be subject to the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation. This stipulation is as follows:

"The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation."

In December 2004, BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel completed work on a set of programmatic level, lease notices for federally listed species occurring in Utah, that are to be attached to oil and gas leases offered in the State of Utah. On December 13, 2004, section 7 consultation was initiated with the submission of a memorandum to FWS, containing the lease notices. The FWS responded with a memorandum dated December 16, 2004 concurring with the BLM determination that attachment of the lease notices to appropriate lease parcels would constitute a "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determination for listed species in Utah. Detailed information on the inclusion of the appropriate lease notices and stipulations are contained in Attachments 1 and 2.

Based on the information and analysis provided in Attachment 2, and inclusion of all appropriate lease notices and stipulations, the June 2008 sale of oil and gas lease parcels complies with the 2004 FWS programmatic consultation and determination and no listed species are likely to be adversely affected by the proposed action.

ACECs: Existing ACECS, as identified in the BCRMP and DMRMP, as well as potential ACECs, identified in the draft Vernal RMP, were reviewed to determine if the identified relevant and important values constituted new significant information. Conclusions of this review may be found in the consolidated interdisciplinary team review and report. The portion of parcel recommended for the August 2008 lease sale, occur within existing as well as potential ACECs alternative A and C. However, the lease notices and stipulations will help protect the relevant and important criteria.

Paleontological Resources: The portion of parcel, parcel UT0808-088, recommended for sale has high potential for paleontological resources to be impacted by surface disturbing activities. Lease

notices to protect paleontological resources during ground disturbing activities have been applied to these parcels. The new information is not significant because formations with a high potential for containing fossils were taken into account in the referenced NEPA documents.

Floodplains: The portion of parcel, parcel UT0808-088, recommended for sale is within lands that contain floodplains. A lease notice that identifies the need to comply with the Floodplain Executive Order No 11988 would be added to the parcels. The added lease notices would provide adequate protection for the resource. The information is not significant because they were floodplains were addressed in the RMPS and therefore was taken into account in the referenced NEPA documents.

4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?

Documentation and explanation:

The methodology and approach used in the analysis of all alternatives for the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS, DMRMP/EIS, and Vernal Draft RMP identified under Part B and C, are still appropriate for the current proposed action. The methods of extraction, land requirements for exploration and development have not changed substantially since the documents were completed. Specifically the documents considered and analyzed the impacts resulting from preliminary investigations, exploratory drilling, development, production, and abandonment. The analyzed impacts considered in these documents have been verified through site-specific NEPA documents. These site specific documents may include analysis of any of these phases. Specifically EAs or EISs have been written that analyze the impacts of geophysical surveys (preliminary investigation), exploratory drilling and field development. Production and abandonment are also considered in the exploratory drilling and field development documents. The impact analysis disclosed in these documents verify the adequacy and accuracy of the general impact analysis in the EAR, BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP.

5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Do the existing NEPA documents analyze impacts related to the current proposed action at a level of specificity appropriate to the proposal (plan level, programmatic level, project level)?

Documentation and explanation:

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be the same as those analyzed in the EISs associated with the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal Draft RMP/EIS. This is because the proposed action is essentially the same and the existing resource conditions and values have not changed since analysis in the EISs. The EISs used a general analysis of impacts, but these were tied to specific resources and values present in the specific areas. Leasing categories were established dependent on resources and values in particular areas and stipulations were designed for each of these categories to protect these resources and values. The RFDs further defined expected impacts to specific exploration and production regions. These analyses are therefore region specific and allow region specific location and identification of potential impacts of the current leasing proposal.

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be the same as

those analyzed in the EAR. This is because the EAR analyzed, in general, the direct and indirect impacts of exploration and production activities that may result after an area in the Vernal District Area is leased.

6. **Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

Documentation and explanation:

The EISs and RFDs for the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP included analysis of the potential collective and cumulative impacts of oil and gas leasing. Information regarding past actions are included in these documents. Reasonably foreseeable scenarios are also spelled out for each document. Each subsequent document shows the incremental increase of cumulative impacts, as would be expected for an ongoing minerals program. The cumulative impact scenarios disclosed in these documents have been verified through development NEPA documents. Because the reasonably foreseeable level of oil and gas activity analyzed previously is still appropriate; potential cumulative impacts are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the EISs and RFDs.

7. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

Documentation and explanation:

The public involvement and interagency review procedures and findings made through the development of the Environmental Analysis Record, Diamond Mountain Resource Area RMP/EIS, the Book Cliffs Resource Area RMP/EIS, and the Vernal Draft RMP/EIS are adequate for the proposed lease sale. During the development of the documents listed above, public workshops and meetings and public comments were received. All comments were taken into account in the finalized documents.

- E. **Interdisciplinary Analysis:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet. An Interdisciplinary checklist is attached to this DNA.

Name	Title	Resource Represented
Jason West	Outdoor Recreation Planner	ACECs, Recreation, VRM
Stephanie Howard	Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Air Quality
Holly Villa	Natural Resource Specialist	LUP review, farmlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers
Amy Torres	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Animal Species, Wildlife
Robin Hansen	Geologist	Paleontology Review
Gabrielle Elliott	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns,

Merlin Sinfield	Engineering Technician	Hazardous and Solid Wastes
Clayton Newberry	Botanist	Special Status Plant Species, Invasive, Non-native Plant Species
Steve Strong	Natural Resource Specialist	Soils, Watershed
Karl Wright	Natural Resource Specialist	Floodplains, Wetlands, Riparian

The results of the ID team reviews are documented in Attachment 2

- F. Mitigation Measures:** The following Lease Notices and/or Lease Stipulations should be applied to the parcels (these are in addition to those applied by the Utah State Office).

LEASE STIPULATIONS- WO-IM
<p>1. Lease Stipulation-Cultural Resources (WO-IM-2005-003); This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels</p> <p><i>"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." WO-IM 2005-03."</i></p>
<p>2. Lease Stipulation-Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation (WO-IM-2002-174): This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels.</p> <p><i>The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. §1531 <i>et seq.</i>, including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.</i></p>

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that:

Plan Conformance:

- ☒ This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- ☐ This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- ☒ The existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.
- ☐ The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.



Signature of the Responsible Official

7-2-2008

Date

Attachments – 3

Attachment 1, Vernal Parcel List

Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review

Attachment 3, Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Checklist

AUGUST 2008 PRELIMINARY OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST

UTU0808-088

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 7: Lot 2, N2SE, SENW, NESW;
196.97 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on the entire lease.
UT-S-56: CSU- VRM Class II Areas on Lot 2, N2SE, SENW, NESW of Sec. 7.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the entire lease.
UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Sec. 7.
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lot 2,
SENW, NESW, N2SE of Sec. 7.
UT-LN-07: Raptor habitat on the entire lease.
UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion in the entire lease.

**Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
August 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale**

**Deferred Parcel Table
August 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale**

PARCEL	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	ACRES	REASON TRACT POSTPONED	LAND USE PLAN	PROPOSED LEASING DECISION DATE
UT0808-084	T. 9S., R. 17 E., Salt Lake Sec.25 NE, E2NW, N2SE Sec.35 S2SW, SWSE	440.00	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-085	T. 3S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake Sec. 1: W2SE; Sec. 17: ALL; Sec. 34: E2SE; Sec. 35: E2NE, S2.	1200.00	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat. Mexican Spotted Owl Habitat: This land is within good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat.	Diamond Mountain and Book Cliff RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-086	T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE; Sec. 5: Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE; Sec. 7: E2NE, NESE; Sec. 8: N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE; Sec. 9: E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE; Sec. 10: SWSW.	2124.48	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
August 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

UTU0808-087	T. 3 S., R. 19E., Salt Lake Sec. 6: Lot 4-7, SENE, E2SW; Sec. 7: Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW; Sec. 18: Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE; Sec. 19: Lot 1, 2, NE, E2NW; Sec. 20: Lot 2, 3, N2, N2S2, SESE; Sec. 21: N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW.	2388.71	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-088*	T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 6 ALL Sec. 7 Lot 1, NE, S2SE Sec. 18 Lot 2-4, NE, SENE, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE Sec. 19 Lot 3, 4	1447.84	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat. Mexican Spotted Owl Habitat: This land is within good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-089	T. 3 S., R. 20E., Salt Lake Sec. 19 Lot 6, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE Sec. 30 Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENE, E2SW, SE	1248.11	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-090	T. 9 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 30 Lot 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE	1340.05	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table
August 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

UTU0808-091	T. 11 S. R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec.4 Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW Sec.8 NENE, NWSW, SESW, W2SE Sec.9 NWNW	436.17	Indian trust lands: These lands fall on Indian Trust Surface		Book Cliffs RMP	No jurisdiction to lease.
UTU0808-092	T 7 S. R. 21 E., Salt Lake Sec.13 SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE Sec.14 N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE Sec.15 W2NE, SENE Sec.22 N2SE Sec.23 SENE, SWNW, N2SE Sec.24 W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE	1080.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis. Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.		Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP and for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UTU0808-093	T. 4 S. R. 22 E., Salt Lake Sec.26 Lot 4, 5, N2SW	159.57	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.		Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.

*Only portions of lease are deferred

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

Project Title: Oil and Gas Lease Parcels for August 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

NEPA Log Number: UT-080-08-538

File/Serial Number:

Project Leader: H. Villa

FOR EAs: NP: not present; NI: resource/use present but not impacted; PI: potentially impacted
FOR DNAs only: NC: no change (anticipated resource impacts not changed from those analyzed in the NEPA document on which the DNA is based)

STAFF REVIEW OF PROPOSAL:

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
NC	Air Quality	The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded by leasing of the parcels. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO ₂ covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Preliminary information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.
NI	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	One parcel going forward, UTU0808-088, falls within the Red Mountain-Dry Fork ACEC. However, the relevant and important criteria will be protected with lease stipulations and notices.
NP	Potential Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None present.
NI	Cultural Resources	Section 106 consultation was begun on June 4, 2008 and on June 20, 2008 an e-mail was received stating that they concur with the finding of "no historic properties affected".
NI	Environmental Justice	The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	None of the parcels contain lands that meet the criteria for prime, state important or unique farmlands.
NC	Floodplains	Parcels or portions of parcels having floodplains would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA) would be sufficient to prevent the spread or introduction of Invasive, Non-native species.
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Letters were sent to appropriate Native American groups. The Vernal Field Office allowed 30 days for the Native American

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
		groups to respond. No concerns about the lease parcels have been expressed.
NI	Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Special Status Species	See report, no special status species would be impacted by the proposed action if the mitigation measures are followed.
NP	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wastes were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.
NI	Water Quality (surface/ground)	This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current Onshore Orders. These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Parcels or portions of parcels having riparian/aquatic areas would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	None of the parcels going forward for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain eligible or designated Wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.
NP	Wilderness	None of the parcels going forward for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.
NI	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA), including reclamation standards, would be sufficient to meet Rangeland Health Standards.
NI	Livestock Grazing	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA) would mitigate any potential impacts to livestock grazing (i.e., fenced pits, cattleguards and site reclamation).
NC	Woodland / Forestry	Given the application of standard operating procedures (SOPs), and site specific mitigation applied at the APD stage as conditions of approval (COA), it is concluded that woodland or forest resources would not be affected in a way not already analyzed in existing NEPA documents.
NI	Vegetation including Special Status plant species	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having plant concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NI	Fish ,Wildlife, and Special Status	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having animal concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NI	Soils	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having steep slopes or erosive soil would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
NP	Recreation	There are no designated recreation facilities within the project area.
NC	Visual Resources	Visual resources were inventoried as part of the land use planning process. The potential impacts of oil and gas development on visual resources were adequately analyzed and documented in the RMP/EIS. Visual resources are managed consistent with the designations made in the RMPs. SOPs and COAs would mitigate impacts to visual resources.
NC	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	<p>The existing NEPA documents adequately address the impacts of oil and gas leasing, as the EAR addressed oil and gas operations and the impacts that could result from exploration through development.</p> <p>The EARs considered impacts to the natural terrain, such as landscape, scenery, and geologic features. Possible mitigations, such as avoidance, no surface occupancy, and relocation of facilities, were analyzed in the NEPA documents.</p> <p>Oil and gas exploration could lead to an increased understanding of the geologic setting, as subsurface data obtained through lease operations may become public record. This information promotes an understanding of mineral resources as well as geologic interpretation.</p> <p>Conflicts could arise between oil and gas operations and other mineral operations. These could generally be mitigated under the regulations 3101.1-2, where proposed oil and gas operations may be moved up to 200 meters or delayed by 60 days and also under the standard lease terms (Sec. 6) where siting and design of facilities may be modified to protect other resources.</p>
NI	Paleontology	Appropriate lease notices were added in areas where potential for paleontological resources are present. Surveys would be done, as needed, prior to surface disturbing activities. SOPs and COAs would ensure that paleontological resources are protected. These measures would include monitoring during initial construction when necessary.
NC	Lands / Access	Public lands administered by the BLM are available for leasing under the various lease categories prescribed in the RMP. Lessees are granted the right to access leases for exploration and development of oil and gas resources. Those same rights extend to split-estate lands and lands administered by other agencies when these lands are underlain by federal minerals.
NI	Socio-economics	Socio-economic conditions are adequately addressed in the existing NEPA record. The proposed actions considered the social and economic impacts that could be associated with oil and gas operations. The impacts include demands on social and governmental infrastructure, migration of people as work forces increase and decrease, changes in the tax base, economic growth and decline, and changes in social institutions.
NP	Wilderness characteristics	None of the parcels going forward for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

FINAL REVIEW

Reviewer Title	Date	Signature	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	6/12/08	Stephani Howard	
Manager	7/2/2008	J. J. [Signature]	

**CONSOLIDATED INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEW
OF PRELIMINARY PARCELS FOR
August 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

The following information was provided by the interdisciplinary team assigned to review the proposed August 2008 lease sale parcels in the Uintah Basin. The offered parcels assessed in these reviews are: UT0808-084, UT0808-085, UT0808-086, UT0808-087, UT0808-088, UT0808-089, UT0808-090, UT0808-092, and UT0808-093.

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Areas of Critical Environmental Concern –

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Recreation Review

Jason R. West

ORP

2/22/08

Methodology:

Reviewed available GIS layers

Reviewed applicable portions of the VFO Draft RMP and EIS, The Diamond Mountain RoD and the Book Cliffs RoD.

UTU0808-084

T. 9 S., R. 17 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, E2NW, N2SE;

Sec. 35: S2SW, SWSE.

440.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
on the E2NE of Sec. 25.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the S2SW of Sec. 35.

All portions of the parcel fall within the Alt. C Potential Coyote Basin –Myton Bench ACEC

UTU0808-085

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: W2SE;

Sec. 17: ALL;

Sec. 34: E2SE;

Sec. 35: E2NE, S2.

1,200.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the W2NW, SENW, NESW, W2SE of Sec. 17.
UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and
the E2NE,
SW, W2SE of Sec. 35.
UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on the SWSE of Sec. 1.
Pine Ridge Picnic Site

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.
UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and
the E2NE,
NESW, N2SE of Sec. 35.

Section 1 is VRM II

UTU0808-086

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE;
Sec. 5: Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE;
Sec. 7: E2NE, NESE;
Sec. 8: N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE;
Sec. 9: E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;
Sec. 10: SWSW.

2,124.48 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 4; Sec. 5; Sec. 8; Sec. 9;
and Sec. 10.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, SENW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and
NENE of Sec. 9.
UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, NESW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and
NENE of
Sec. 9;.
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the S2NE, S2S2 of Sec. 4;
Lot 4, S2NW,
SW, S2SE of Sec. 5; Sec. 7; Sec. 8; Sec. 9; and Sec. 30.

No Conflict with recreation. OHV's are limited to designated roads and trails, Part of the
South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

UTU0808-087

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: Lot 4-7, SENW, E2SW;

Sec. 7: Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW;

Sec. 18: Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE;

Sec. 19: Lot 1, 2, NE, E2NW;

Sec. 20: Lot 2, 3, N2, N2S2, SESE;

Sec. 21: N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW.

2,388.71 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the SENW of Sec. 7; N2NE, SENE of Sec. 20; SWNW, W2SW, SESW of Sec. 21.

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on the entire lease.

UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2-4 of Sec. 7. Pine Pocket Picnic Area.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the entire lease.

OHV's must stay on designated routes. Part of the South Slope Yellowstone hunting unit.

UTU0808-088

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;

Sec. 7: Lot 1, 2, E2, SENW, NESW;

Sec. 18: Lot 2-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE;

Sec. 19: Lot 3, 4.

1,644.81 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the SWNE, N2SE, SESE of Sec. 6.

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 6; Sec. 7; Lots 1-4, NE, SENW, E2SW,

W2SE of Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.

UT-S-56: CSU- VRM Class II Areas on Sec. 6; Lots 1,2, E2, SENW, NESW of Sec. 7; and NENE of Sec. 18.

UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 1, SENE, NESE of Sec. 6.

UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2, 3, SWNE, SE of Sec. 6.

Dry Fork Picnic Site

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the entire lease.

UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 5-7, SENW, E2SW, W2SE, SESE of Sec. 6; Sec. 7; Sec. 18; Lot 3 of Sec. 19.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 5-7, NESW of Sec. 6; Lots, 1, 2,

SWNE, E2NW, E2NW, E2SW, SE of Sec. 7; Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.

Part of the Red Mountain-Dry Fork Complex ACEC See Decisions RD21-RD26 for minerals Page 3-29, Diamond Mtn ROD.

Part of the Red Mountain-Dry Fork Special Recreation management area. (Parts of section 6, 7, and 18.)

OHV limited or open. Part of the South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

UTU0808-089

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: Lot 6, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE;

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE.

1,248.11 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 19; Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30 and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 31.

UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 6, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4, SWNE, SENW of Sec. 30.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Sec. 19 and NENE, S2NE of Sec. 30.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 30.

Currently open to OHV use as per Diamond Mountain ROD
Part of the South Slope Vernal hunting unit.

UTU0808-090

T. 9 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;
Sec. 31: ALL.
1,340.05 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-22: CSU – 100 Year Floodplains on Lots 2, 3, E2SW of Sec. 30 and the
W2NE, SENW,
NESW, SE of Sec. 31.

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the S2NE, SE of Sec. 30 and the E2NE of Sec. 31.
OHV's Limited to existing routes. Part of the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek Hunting Unit

UTU0808-091

T. 11 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 4: Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW;
Sec. 8: NENE, NWSW, SESW, W2SE;
Sec. 9: NWNW.
436.17 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-092

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;
Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE;
Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;
Sec. 22: N2SE;
Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.
1,080.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

OHV is Limited to designated routes and Open. Part of the South Slope Bonanza Hunting unit.

UTU0808-093

T. 4 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 26: Lot 4, 5, N2SW.
159.57 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the entire lease.

OHV's limited to designated routes. Part of the South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

Air Quality –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator

The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO₂ covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.

Cultural Resources –

Submitted By: Gabrielle Elliott, VFO Archaeologist

A Cultural Resource Evaluation & Comments Concerning the August 2008 Oil & Gas Lease Sale in Uintah County, Utah.

Introduction:

The Following Listed lease sale parcels are proposed for leasing in the August, 2008 lease sale. The purpose of this document is to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 10 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in a list provided by the Utah BLM State Office, Branch of Fluid Minerals, Salt Lake City, Utah in May, 2008 to the Vernal Utah BLM Field Office. The analytic unit/APE is the lease sale parcel's external boundary as defined in the lease document. The one well per parcel theory is followed in this document.

The Vernal Field Office cultural resource records review for the August, 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Parcels adequately summarizes previous archaeological inventories and known cultural sites located on the proposed parcels. The impact analysis for each parcel is based on the assumption that one 5 acre well pad and associated access road would be drilled on each parcel. The associated access road to the well may be circuitous in nature; however, due to avoidance of eligible cultural resource sites. The area analyzed in the review consists of an Area of Potential Effect (APE) defined by the legal descriptions of parcels being offered for lease in the February 2008 sale.

The existence of high site density on larger parcels allows for more flexibility in planning for the placement of a well pad.

Based on the May 19, 2008 records search, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one well pad and associated access road can occur without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources on 9 parcels. Parcel 091 has no baseline planning document and should be deferred from auction. The documented cultural resources are located in such a fashion that avoidance is feasible for the development of oil and gas potential therefore the staff archaeologist determined that under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No Historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4" for the August, 2008 oil and gas lease sale. On all parcels, however, once a project specific proposal is submitted and prior to the approval of construction or any ground disturbing activity, an additional Section 106 cultural resource assessment would be completed where site specific issues would be addressed as appropriate. Likewise, the presence of newly found cultural resources in the 9 parcels may cause additional parameters to be placed upon development strategies in areas within the parcels.

Consultation letters were mailed to the Northern Ute Indian Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Ute Mountain Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Goshute Tribe, the Laguna Pueblo, the Nambe Pueblo, the Northwestern Shoshone Tribe, the Southern Ute Tribe, the Santa Clara Pueblo, the White Mesa Tribe, and the Zia Pueblo on May 9, 2008 regarding this project. They were requested to identify traditional cultural properties or any other areas of traditional cultural importance that need to be considered within the project proximity. The Utah State Historic Preservation Office was also mailed a certified letter on May 23, 2008 regarding this project.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern

This class 1 overview addresses the archaeology of the August, 2008 oil & gas lease sale and utilizes data current to the date of this document, May, 2008.

Recommendations for Leasing:

The following listed factors were utilized by the VFO archaeologist in determining a lease parcel's sensitivity for the presence or absence of significant archaeological and ethnographic Period sites and areas sensitive to those Tribes who claim a cultural affiliation in N.E. Utah.

1. Known site density
2. Inventory status, class II or III
3. Inventory results
4. Topographic setting
5. soil types and erodibility class
6. Site types in and near a parcel
7. Parcel intra unit variability; topography, water, lithic sources, slopes, elevation etc
8. Statistical modeling results for an area, stratum, factor
9. Past land use patterns
10. Modern land use patterns
11. Archaeological community knowledge
12. land ownership

Parcels listed for leasing: Maps are attached so as to orient the reviewer as to the location, size and configuration of the lease parcels in Uintah and Duchesne Counties in North Eastern, Utah for the August, 2008 lease sale.

Cultural Resources:

Recorded sites are present in
Figure #1: Site description

Site Location Discussion:

UTU0808-084: Big Wash of Eight Mile Flat

T. 9 S., R. 17 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, E2NW, N2SE;

Sec. 35: S2SW, SWSE.

440.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

Moderate Potential for archaeology

UTU0808-085

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: W2SE; Dry Fork Canyon Drainage. **Prehistoric Sites**

Sec. 17: ALL; Mosby Creek. Known sites. **Excavations have occurred.**

Sec. 34: E2SE; Deep Creek. Known sites

Sec. 35: E2NE, S2. Deep Creek. Known sites

High probability; Stratified Prehistoric Sites.

1,200.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-086

Deep Creek Basin (Prehistoric Sites)

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE; Between Smeltzer and Lane Creek.

Sec. 5: Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE; Upper Smeltzer Creek.

Sec. 7: E2NE, NESE; Mosby Creek.

Sec. 8: N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE; Between Mosby and Smeltzer Creek.

Sec. 9: E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE; Smeltzer Creek.

Sec. 10: SWSW. Smeltzer Creek.

High Probability for Sites

2,124.48 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-087

Prehistoric Sites. Deep Creek Basin

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: Lot 4-7, SENW, E2SW; Private.

Sec. 7: Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW; Mosby Creek.

Sec. 18: Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE; Mosby Creek.

Sec. 19: Lot 1, 2, NE, E2NW; Grange Creek.

Sec. 20: Lot 2, 3, N2, N2S2, SESE; Mosby Creek.

Sec. 21: N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW. Mosby and Crow Creek.

High Probability for Sites.

2,388.71 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-088

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL; Dry Fork Canyon.

Sec. 7: Lot 1, 2, E2, SENW, NESW; Private and State.

Sec. 18: Lot 2-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE; Little Mountain.

Sec. 19: Lot 3, 4. Little Mountain.

Springs present; between Deep Creek Basin and Dry Fork Canyon.

Moderate potential for Historic and Prehistoric Sites. Sandy area, P/J Zone, spring areas along permanent streams.

1,644.81 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-089

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: Lot 6, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE; Private.

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE; Little Mountain.

Sec. 31: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE. Little Mountain.

Moderate potential.

1,248.11 Acres

Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-090

T. 9 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake. Lower Willow Creek Drainage.

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: ALL.

Lower Willow Creek Drainage. Several known ethnographic (Utes) period sites. Fremont cultural sites and historic Euro American sites. HIGH Probability for other sites to be present. Petroglyphs, Ute and Fremont, Open sites of various ages, homesteads, Historic fur trapper period inscriptions. TCP's at the mouth of the drainage. Burials. Recommend deferring.

1,340.05 Acres

Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-091

T. 11 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW;

Sec. 8: NENE, NWSW, SESW, W2SE;

Sec. 9: NWNW.

Tribal. Hill CR. Drainage. Many Ute and Fremont period petroglyphs and pictographs. Ute Shaman sites and other TCP sites, e.g. Bear Dance petroglyph sites. No baseline planning. Tribal Surface. Recommend Deferring.

436.17 Acres

Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-092

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake. Deadman's Bench.

Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;

Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE;

Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;

Sec. 22: N2SE;

Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;

Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.

Deadman Bench. Known Prehistoric open camps appear to be correlated locationally to numerous edible plants, a good view shed and numerous seasonal streams. Probability for significant sites between low and moderate.

1,080.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-093

T. 4 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 26: Lot 4, 5, N2SW.

Sunshine Bench. Low Probability.

159.57 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

Parcel Sensitivity Rankings:

Rankings for site sensitivity are based on the results of inventories done to date. Mainly these are oil and gas surveys, road Rights-of-Ways, power line Rights-of-Ways, waterline, pipeline surveys etc. Other data sources were the oil shale inventories of the late 1970s and 1980s. Rankings are also based on the probability for site preservation due to topographic factors mentioned above, current land uses, soil stability, and known water sources. The number of known sites in a parcel is also used as a discriminating factor.

A **LOW** rating is predicated on the results of previous inventories in and near the parcel whose results indicated sites were not present and/or preservation factors were not conducive to site preservation e.g. erosion, steep slopes, highly erodible soils or the terrain was characterized by Mancos Shale sediments which are unstable and are easily eroded or the flanks of the draw are steep and unstable while the floor of the draw is deeply buried by valley fill sediments derived from the draw's slopes or the Valley floor is deeply incised by vertical walled arroyos which have yet to show any evidence of buried occupations.

1. **High:** Parcels number# 085, 086, 087, 090, 091,
2. **Medium:** Parcels #084, 088, 089,
2. **Low:** Parcels #093

Based on this analysis, the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing will not be adversely affected by adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1. A "No Adverse Effect" Determination is recommended. This determination is based upon the above listed physical factors and the physical descriptions provided to the reviewer of this document. Avoidance is practiced by the VFO where possible, otherwise mitigation is implemented through Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Traditional Cultural Properties are always avoided and a protective buffer is implemented for a .5 mile radius.

Other: The provisions of I.M. 2005-003 will be followed during this lease sale as it explains the tiered process of the fluid minerals program.

A lease sale may have the following stipulation added:

“This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedoms Act, (AIRFA), The Native American graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.”

Environmental Justice –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator

The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.

Farmlands (Unique or Prime) –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

No prime or unique farmlands exist within the area.

Floodplain, Riparian and Public Water Reserves –

Submitted By: Karl Wright, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

Sources: Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plans, BLM Utah State Riparian Policy, Public Water Reserve Executive Order 107 and Flood Plain Executive Order No. 11988.

Methodology: Lease sale parcels were compared to the Book Cliff and Diamond Mountain RMP's, the Vernal Field Office GIS data base for Riparian Inventory, 100 Year Floodplain, and Public Water Reserves. The RMP stipulations continue as stated in the RMP's. Where new data has been acquired the following stipulations should be applied to be in compliance with the minimum requirements with in the above mentioned riparian policy and executive orders.

RIPARIAN AREAS LEASE NOTICE

The parcels listed as Riparian Lease Notice in the table below were not inventoried at the time the RMP's were completed. The following constraints need to be applied.

LEASE NOTICE – RIPARIAN AREAS

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing riparian areas. Surface occupancy or use is subject to BLM State Riparian Policy (Instruction Memorandum UT89-192). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the riparian area in accordance with the following riparian policy constraint: No surface use will be allowed within 100 meters of riparian areas unless it can be shown that: 1) There is no practicable alternative; 2) All long-term impacts are fully mitigated; or, 3) Construction is an enhancement to the riparian areas.

Protection of riparian areas was discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78) and the Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (p. 2-36, 2-37). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells.

FLOODPLAIN STIPULATION

The parcels listed as Floodplain Stipulation in the table were mapped as critical flood plain but were not listed with the stipulations. The following constraints need to be applied according to the Bookcliffs RMP.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints.

- No surface use will be allowed within the 100 year floodplains of the Bitter, Evacuation, Hill, Sweetwater, and Willow Creeks or the Green and White Rivers.

On the lands described below:

- For the purpose of: Protection of floodplains and wetlands as discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78). This stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

FLOODPLAIN LEASE NOTICE

The parcels listed as Floodplain Lease Notice in the table were not included as floodplain in the RMP's. The following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Floodplain Executive order 11988.

LEASE NOTICE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in the lease have been identified as potentially containing 100-year floodplains. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Floodplain Executive Order No. 11988. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the floodplains in accordance with the executive order as follows: If the only practical alternative requires the sitting in the floodplain, the action shall be modified in order to minimize potential harm to or within the floodplain; reduce the risk of flood loss; minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and, restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated or the resource values have changed.

PUBLIC WATER RESERVES

The parcels listed as Public Water Reserve Notice in the table were not included with in the RMP's and the following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Public Water Reserve with draws.

LEASE STIPULATION PUBLIC WATER RESERVE

No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the designated Public Water Reserve is allowed under this lease in order to protect the designated public water reserve.

LEASE NOTICE – PUBLIC WATER RESERVE

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as a designated Public Water Reserve. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the reserve up to and including no surface occupancy or use. Protection of a designated public water reserve as discussed in Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107 and the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 123). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells. This lease notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

The only parcels listed are those that need to have the Stipulations/Lease Notices added that are mentioned above. The other parcels already contain adequate stipulations/notices or do not contain Floodplain, riparian, or public water reserves.

Parcel No.	Legal Description	Stipulation/Lease Notice
UT0808-084	T 9S, R 17E Sec 25, E2NE	Floodplain Notice (Red Mtn. stipulation)
UT0808-085	T 3S, R 19E Sec 1, NWSE Sec 17, W2NW, SENW, NESW, W2SE	Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice, Riparian Notice (Red Mtn. stipulation)
UT0808-086	T 3S, R 19E Sec 4, SWSE, N2NE, W2SW Sec 5, SESE, SESW, N2SE, SENE, SWNW Sec 8, N2NW, SENW, SWSE Sec 9, NESW, SESE Sec 10, SWSW	Riparian Notice Riparian Notice Riparian Notice Riparian Notice Riparian Notice
UT0808-087	T 3S, R 19E Sec 7, S2NW Sec 7, NWSW Sec 18, SENE, W2NW, W2SW Sec 19, SENE	Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice & Riparian Notice (Red Mtn. Stip) Riparian Notice

	Sec 19, NENE Sec 20, N2NE, SENE, NESE, Sec 21, W2SW	PWR, Riparian Notice Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice & Riparian Notice (Private) Floodplain Notice & Riparian Notice (Private)
UT0808-088	T. 3S. R 20E Sec 6, S2SW Sec 6, E2NW, SWNE, N2SE, SESE Sec 7, Sec 18,	Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice & Riparian Notice Private No Data Private No Data
UT0808-089	T. 3S. R 20E Sec 19, N2SW Sec 30, SESW	Riparian Notice Riparian Notice
UT0808-090	T. 9S. R 20E Sec 30, NWSE, SWSW Sec 30, E2SW, S2NW, NWNW Sec 31, W2NE, SENW, NWSE, SE, NENW	Floodplain Notice (Willow Creek) Floodplain and Riparian Stipulation (Willow Creek) Floodplain and Riparian Stipulation (Willow Creek)
UT0808-091	T. 11S. R 20E Sec 4 Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW Sec 8 NWSW Sec 9 NWNW	Floodplain and Riparian Notice (tribal surface) Floodplain and Riparian Notice (tribal surface) Floodplain and Riparian Notice (tribal surface)
UT0808-092	T. 7S. R 21E	NONE
UT0808-093	T. 4S. R 22E	NONE

Hazardous/Solid Wastes –

Submitted By: Merlin Sinfield, VFO HazMat Coordinator

This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wasters were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.

LUP Review –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

***portions in blue have been added or changed, portions with a ~~strikethrough~~ have been deleted**

**UT0808- 084
No changes**

UT0808- 085

UT-S-56: CSU-VRM Class II Areas on W2SE Sec.1.

UT0808- 086

UT-S-52: TL-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec.4; Sec.5; Sec.7; Sec.8; Sec.9; and Sec.10.

UT-LN-30 High Potential Paleontological Resources on the S2NE, W2SW, S2SE, S2S2 of Sec. 4; Lot 4, S2NW, SW, S2SE of Sec.5; Sec. 7; Sec.8; Sec.9; and Sec.30 10.

UT0808- 087

UT-S-51: Red Mountain-Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on the lots 2, 3, SENW of Sec.7; N2NE, SENE of Sec.20; SWNW, W2SW, SESW, of Sec.21.

UT0808- 088

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 5-7, NESW of Sec.6; Sec.7; lots 1, 2, SWNE, E2NW, SENW, E2NW, E2SW, NESW, SE of Sec.7; Sec.18; and Sec.19.

UT0808- 089

UT-S-68: NSO-Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 6, E2SW, NWSE, W2SE of Sec.19 and Lots 2-4, SWNE, SENW of Sec.30.

UT0808- 090

UT-S-22: CSU NSO-100 Year Floodplains on Lots 2, 3, E2SW of Sec. 30 and the W2NE, SENW, E2NW, NESW, SE of Sec.31.

UT0808- 091

No changes

UT0808- 092

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains on NESE Sec.22.

Paleontology –

Submitted By: Robin Hansen, Geologist

Paleontology: I have reviewed those preliminary lease parcels pertaining to the upcoming August 2008 oil and gas lease sale. Paleontological resources are protected by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended; the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 as amended; and BLM Manual M-8270, Paleontological Resource Management; BLM Handbook H-8270-1 – General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management; and 43 CFR Subparts 3610, 3622, 3802, 3809 and 8365 add additional protection for paleontological resources. Prospective lease areas UT0808-085, UT0808-086, UT0808-087, UT0808-088, and UT0808-089 have high potential for paleontological resources to be impacted by surface disturbing activities as noted in the lease sale stipulations. In addition to those listed, the entire lease areas for UT0808-090, and UT0808-92 have high potential for paleontological resources. Surface Use Plan of Operations may require modification to protect paleontological resources from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms and 43 CFR 3101.1-2. Monitoring of specific sites may be required.

Methodology: Geologic maps were used to identify which geologic formations are present within each individual lease parcel (Stokes and Madsen, 1961; Cashion and others, 1973; Rowely and others, 1985; and Sprinkle, D.A., in press). BLM internal data files, GIS Paleontologic Locality Data and maps were inspected to identify any fossil resources within the

same section or within 1 mile from each lease parcel. Analyses conducted in this manner conform to NEPA requirements of 1969 as outlined in (P.L. 91-190; 31 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 44321-4327) and FLPMA of 1976 (P.L. 94-579; 90 Stat. 2743, U.S.C 1701-1782). The analysis conducted for this lease sale conforms to the ROD/EIS for the Vernal Resource Area (BLM, 1985; p. 77) and the Vernal Field Office Draft management Plan.

Summary: Field inventory maps and files, and geologic maps have been reviewed by the Vernal Field Office. The following parcels: UT0808-085, UT0808-086, UT0808-087, UT0808-088, UT0808-089, UT0808-090, and UT0808-092 *shall* require a paleontology lease notice for paleontological resources.

Recreation and Visual Resources –

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Recreation Review

Jason R. West

ORP

2/22/08

Methodology:

Reviewed available GIS layers

Reviewed applicable portions of the VFO Draft RMP and EIS, The Diamond Mountain RoD and the Book Cliffs RoD.

UTU0808-084

T. 9 S., R. 17 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, E2NW, N2SE;

Sec. 35: S2SW, SWSE.

440.00 Acres

Duchesne County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the E2NE of Sec. 25.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the S2SW of Sec. 35.

All portions of the parcel fall within the Alt. C Potential Coyote Basin –Myton Bench ACEC

UTU0808-085

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: W2SE;

Sec. 17: ALL;

Sec. 34: E2SE;

Sec. 35: E2NE, S2.
1,200.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
on the W2NW, SENW, NESW, W2SE of Sec. 17.
- UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and the E2NE,
SW, W2SE of Sec. 35.
- UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on the SWSE of Sec. 1.
Pine Ridge Picnic Site

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.
- UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and the E2NE,
NESW, N2SE of Sec. 35.

Section 1 is VRM II

UTU0808-086

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE;
Sec. 5: Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE;
Sec. 7: E2NE, NESE;
Sec. 8: N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE;
Sec. 9: E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;
Sec. 10: SWSW.

2,124.48 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

- UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 4; Sec. 5; Sec. 8; Sec. 9; and Sec. 10.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, SENW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and NENE of Sec. 9.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, NESW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and NENE of

Sec. 9;
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the S2NE, S2S2 of Sec. 4;
Lot 4, S2NW,
SW, S2SE of Sec. 5; Sec. 7; Sec. 8; Sec. 9; and Sec. 30.

No Conflict with recreation. OHV's are limited to designated roads and trails, Part of the South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

UTU0808-087

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: Lot 4-7, SENW, E2SW;
Sec. 7: Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW;
Sec. 18: Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE;
Sec. 19: Lot 1, 2, NE, E2NW;
Sec. 20: Lot 2, 3, N2, N2S2, SESE;
Sec. 21: N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW.

2,388.71 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,
Floodplains
on the SENW of Sec. 7; N2NE, SENE of Sec. 20; SWNW, W2SW, SESW
of Sec. 21.

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on the entire lease.

UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2-4 of Sec. 7.
Pine Pocket Picnic Area.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the entire lease.

OHV's must stay on designated routes. Part of the South Slope Yellowstone hunting unit.

UTU0808-088

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;
Sec. 7: Lot 1, 2, E2, SENW, NESW;
Sec. 18: Lot 2-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE;
Sec. 19: Lot 3, 4.

1,644.81 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
on the SWNE, N2SE, SESE of Sec. 6.
- UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 6; Sec. 7; Lots 1-4, NE, SENW, E2SW,
W2SE of Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.
- UT-S-56: CSU- VRM Class II Areas on Sec. 6; Lots 1,2, E2, SENW, NESW of Sec. 7; and NENE
of Sec. 18.
- UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 1, SENE, NESE of Sec. 6.
- UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2, 3, SWNE, SE of Sec. 6.
Dry Fork Picnic Site

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the entire lease.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 5-7, SENW, E2SW, W2SE, SESE of Sec. 6; Sec. 7;
Sec. 18; Lot 3 of Sec. 19.
- UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 5-7, NESW of Sec. 6; Lots, 1, 2,
SWNE, E2NW, E2NW, E2SW, SE of Sec. 7; Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.
- Part of the Red Mountain-Dry Fork Complex ACEC See Decisions RD21-RD26 for minerals Page 3-29, Diamond Mtn ROD.
- Part of the Red Mountain-Dry Fork Special Recreation management area. (Parts of section 6, 7, and 18.)
- OHV limited or open. Part of the South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

UTU0808-089

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: Lot 6, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE;

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE.

1,248.11 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 19; Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30
and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 31.
- UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 6, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4,

SWNE, SENW of Sec. 30.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Sec. 19 and NENE, S2NE of Sec. 30.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4,
NENE, S2NE,
SENW, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 30.

Currently open to OHV use as per Diamond Mountain ROD
Part of the South Slope Vernal hunting unit.

UTU0808-090

T. 9 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: ALL.

1,340.05 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-22: CSU – 100 Year Floodplains on Lots 2, 3, E2SW of Sec. 30 and the
W2NE, SENW,
NESW, SE of Sec. 31.

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the S2NE, SE of Sec. 30 and the E2NE of Sec. 31.
OHV's Limited to existing routes. Part of the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek Hunting Unit

UTU0808-091

T. 11 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW;

Sec. 8: NENE, NWSW, SESW, W2SE;

Sec. 9: NWNW.

436.17 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-092

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;

Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE;

Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;

Sec. 22: N2SE;

Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.
1,080.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

OHV is Limited to designated routes and Open. Part of the South Slope Bonanza Hunting unit.

UTU0808-093

T. 4 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 26: Lot 4, 5, N2SW.
159.57 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,
Floodplains
on the entire lease.

OHV's limited to designated routes. Part of the South Slope Vernal Hunting unit.

Soils

Submitted By: Steve Strong, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

I have made comments in bold to the August 2008 Lease Package

UTU0808-084

T. 9 S., R. 17 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 25: NE, E2NW, N2SE;
Sec. 35: S2SW, SWSE.
440.00 Acres
Duchesne County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,
Floodplains
on the E2NE of Sec. 25.

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the S2SW of Sec. 35.

UTU0808-085

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: W2SE;

Sec. 17: ALL;

Sec. 34: E2SE;

Sec. 35: E2NE, S2.

1,200.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the W2NW, SENW, NESW, W2SE of Sec. 17.

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and the E2NE,

SW, W2SE of Sec. 35.

UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on the SWSE of Sec. 1.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.

UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on the W2SE of Sec. 1.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Sec. 1; Sec. 17; Sec. 34; and the E2NE,

NESW, N2SE of Sec. 35.

UTU0808-086

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE;

Sec. 5: Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE;

Sec. 7: E2NE, NESE;

Sec. 8: N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE;

Sec. 9: E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;

Sec. 10: SWSW.

2,124.48 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 4; Sec. 5; Sec. 8; Sec. 9; and Sec. 10.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, SENW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and NENE of Sec. 9.

UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 1-3, S2NE, NESW, S2SE of Sec. 4 and NENE of

Sec. 9;

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the S2NE, S2S2 of Sec. 4; Lot 4, S2NW,

SW, S2SE of Sec. 5; Sec. 7; Sec. 8; Sec. 9; and Sec. 30.

This parcel contains areas of severe soil erosion.

UTU0808-087

T. 3 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: Lot 4-7, SENW, E2SW;

Sec. 7: Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW;

Sec. 18: Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE;

Sec. 19: Lot 1, 2, NE, E2NW;

Sec. 20: Lot 2, 3, N2, N2S2, SESE;

Sec. 21: N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW.

2,388.71 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains

on the SENW of Sec. 7; N2NE, SENE of Sec. 20; SWNW, W2SW, SESW

of Sec. 21.

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on the entire lease.

UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2-4 of Sec. 7.

NOTICE

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the entire lease.

UTU0808-088

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;

Sec. 7: Lot 1, 2, E2, SENW, NESW;

Sec. 18: Lot 2-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE;

Sec. 19: Lot 3, 4.

1,644.81 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains
on the SWNE, N2SE, SESE of Sec. 6.
- UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 6; Sec. 7; Lots 1-4, NE, SENW, E2SW,
W2SE of Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.
- UT-S-56: CSU- VRM Class II Areas on Sec. 6; Lots 1,2, E2, SENW, NESW of Sec. 7; and NENE
of Sec. 18.
- UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 1, SENE, NESE of Sec. 6.
- UT-S-72: NSO Developed or Potential Recreation Sites on Lots 2, 3, SWNE, SE of Sec. 6.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on the entire lease.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat on Lots 5-7, SENW, E2SW, W2SE, SESE of Sec. 6; Sec. 7;
Sec. 18; Lot 3 of Sec. 19.
- UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on Lots 5-7, NESW of Sec. 6; Lots, 1, 2,
SWNE, E2NW, E2NW, E2SW, SE of Sec. 7; Sec. 18; and Sec. 19.

This parcel contains areas of severe soil erosion

UTU0808-089

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 19: Lot 6, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE;

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: Lot 2-4, NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE.

1,248.11 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52: TL- Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range on Sec. 19; Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30

and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 31.

UT-S-68: NSO – Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 6, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4,

SWNE, SENW of Sec. 30.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat on Sec. 19 and NENE, S2NE of Sec. 30.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources on the Sec. 19 and Lots 2-4, NENE, S2NE,

SENE, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 30.

UTU0808-090

T. 9 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 30: Lot 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 31: ALL.

1,340.05 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-22: CSU – 100 Year Floodplains on Lots 2, 3, E2SW of Sec. 30 and the W2NE, SENW,

NESW, SE of Sec. 31.

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the S2NE, SE of Sec. 30 and the E2NE of Sec. 31.

UTU0808-091

T. 11 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 4: Lot 3, SENW, N2SW, SWSW;

Sec. 8: NENE, NWSW, SESW, W2SE;

Sec. 9: NWNW.

436.17 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

UTU0808-092

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;
Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE;
Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;
Sec. 22: N2SE;
Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.

1,080.00 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

UTU0808-093

T. 4 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake
Sec. 26: Lot 4, 5, N2SW.

159.57 Acres
Uintah County, Utah
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Red Mountain - Dry Fork Complex, Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,
Floodplains
on the entire lease.

Special Status Animal Species and Wildlife –

Submitted by: Amy Torres, VFO Wildlife Biologist

All Parcels- The Bookcliffs Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (BCRMP/EIS) and the Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (DMRMP/EIS) as well as the Records of Decision (RODs) were reviewed to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for leasing of the preliminary lease parcels. BLM Manual 6840 (Special Status Species Management) gives guidance consistent with existing laws, regarding the conservation of special status plant and animal species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Special status species include those which are proposed for federal

listing, listed as federally threatened or endangered, candidates for federal listing, listed by a State in a category such as threatened or endangered implying endangerment or extinction and those species designated by the BLM State Director as sensitive. Manual 6840 policy is to ensure that actions authorized by the BLM do not contribute to the need to list any special status species. In addition, Utah BLM Instruction Memorandum (IM) Number UT 2007-078 updates the Utah BLM State Director's Sensitive Plant and Animal Species Lists as defined in the 6840 Manual. This direction replaces IM Number UT-2003-027 and will continue to be updated as necessary. By the updated IM, Utah BLM adopts the existing Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) Utah Sensitive Species List. This means that the BLM will now use the official DWR list that is in place at the time of a given action. DWR updates this list on a regular basis so it will be important to consult the DWR web site at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov> to ensure that the latest list is being used. Only those species or their habitat that occur on BLM administered public lands are considered.

Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174 states that all State Offices will include the attached lease stipulation (see Attachment 1) on oil and gas leases where threatened, endangered, or other special status species or critical habitat is known or strongly suspected. State Offices are instructed not to use versions or generic stipulations other than the attached unless the current land use plan explicitly requires for a different wording. This is critical in order to be consistent with current BLM policy and regulations. This stipulation adds no new requirements; it merely provides that BLM will comply with requirements under existing law and policy. The IM also encourages State Offices to provide a separate notification to prospective lessees identifying the particular special status species that are present on the lease parcel offered. This information will be provided through a lease notice and not by lease stipulation (unless otherwise provided in current land use plans). Copies of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) species list for Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, and the State of Utah Sensitive Species List are on file at the Vernal Field Office.

DMRMP/EIS-Decisions for Special Status Animal Species may be found starting on page 2-13 (FWS28)-2-16 (FWS36) detailing timing restrictions and other appropriate language supporting sensitive species. All applicable lease notices/stipulations can be found in Appendix A in the DMRMP/EIS ROD.

BCRMP/EIS-Page 117 discusses endangered or threatened species. In the ROD, page 50, the management direction for endangered or threatened species and sensitive species is stated. Other laws, regulations, and BLM policies for special status species apply.

Species specific lease notices and stipulations that have been added to the preliminary lease parcels are listed below. Additionally, Adherence to Section 6 of the Standard Lease Form, application of standard operating procedures and Best Management Practices (BMPs), and the opportunity to adjust any proposed surface activities pursuant to 43 CFR 3101.1-2 would provide for further protection.

Further protection should occur under 43 CFR 3101.1-2, Surface Use Rights, that authorizes reasonable measures to minimize adverse impacts to other resource values provided they are consistent with lease rights granted. While the 200 meter and 60 day restriction is always

deemed consistent, greater restrictions may be imposed when less stringent measures would be ineffective and the measure does not render the recovery of oil and gas infeasible or uneconomic. Moreover, at the time of APD approval, the well location and access road may be moved as far as necessary in order to comply with valid, nondiscretionary statutes (laws). Nondiscretionary statutes include our obligations under the Endangered Species Act; National Historic Preservation Act; Clean Water Act; Clean Air Act; Federal Land Policy and Management Act; etc.

The need to move a well location or restrict an activity will be analyzed in the site-specific NEPA document prepared for the APD. The analysis will also include an assessment of the technical feasibility of moving the well location and the adequacy of less stringent measures for protecting the resource values in question (Alternatives). Where BLM's action is discretionary (and both reasonable and necessary), and protection of the resource value is not required by statute (law), BLM should prepare a separate document to describe the costs of compliance with the protective mitigation measure and its effects on the economics of recovering the oil and gas resource. This analysis should be used to assure that the mitigation BLM is contemplating does not breach the lease contract or take property rights. Where there is a question of consistency of the measure with the reasonable expectations of the lessee under the lease contract, an analysis should be performed in the form prescribed in Executive Order 12630 and in close consultation with the Solicitor's Office.

An individual environmental analysis will be required at the APD stage of any proposed development. As part of this APD stage analysis, compliance with the Endangered Species Act will be required and any necessary Section 7 consultation proceedings with the FWS will be part of the analysis.

Parcel UT0808-084

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the entire parcel due to White-tailed prairie dog issues.

Sage Grouse: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated sage grouse brooding habitat.

Antelope: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated year-long crucial range for antelope and BLM designated year-long critical range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long limited range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains BLM designated limited winter range for elk.

White-tailed Prairie Dog: The parcel contains BLM identified prairie dog habitat.

Mountain Plover: The parcel contains UDWR designated habitat for mountain plover.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

None

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-14 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Burrowing Owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-16 (Lease Notice-Mountain Plover Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Mountain Plover habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Mountain Plover from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat on the S2SW of Sec. 35. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-42 (Lease Notice-White-tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential White-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the White-tailed Prairie Dog from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-49 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Nesting and Brooding Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse nesting and brooding habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the species and its habitat. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated

UTAHS T&E SPECIES NOTICES

None

Parcel UT0808-085

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the portion of this parcel that is located in Sec. 17 of T3S, R19E due to Sage Grouse lek/nesting issues. The other 2 areas of this parcel are not located within 2.0 miles of any leks and do not need to be deferred. In addition, deferral of the portion of this parcel located in Sec. 1 (all), T3S, R19E is recommended due to Mexican Spotted Owl issues.

Sage Grouse: Section 17 of T3S, R19E of the proposed lease parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Mosby Creek sage grouse lek and the Lazy M sage grouse lek. Section 17 of T3S, R19E and Sections 34 and 35 of T4S, R19E are located within sage grouse brooding habitat. All of Section 17 of T3S, R19E is located in sage grouse winter habitat.

Mexican Spotted Owl: Sec. 1 (all), T3S, R19E is located within 0.5 miles of BLM designated good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk.

Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep: The W2SE Section 1, T3S, R19E is located in UDWR designated year-long crucial range for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range on Sec. 1 (all); Sec. 17 (all); Sec. 34 (all); and the E2NE, SW and W2SE of Sec. 35 on T3S, R19E, as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat in the W2SE of Sec. 1, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat in the W2SE of Sec. 1, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-44 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse brooding and wintering habitat was added to Sec. 17 (all), T3S, R19E. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Sage Grouse and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UT-LN-46 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Lek Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse Lek habitat was added to Section 17 (all), T3S, R19E. Exploration, drilling, and other associated development should not be allowed from March 1st to June 15th in order to minimize disturbance to breeding sage grouse. Surface occupancy with historic or presently occupied habitat should be avoided. Permanent development near active or historically active leks should be avoided as they are often considered the focal point of year-round activities for non-migratory populations (Braun et. al. 1997). Habitat surrounding the breeding grounds provides the majority of the nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Surveys to determine presence/absence of sage grouse will be required prior to commencing work. To avoid disturbance of leks and nesting habitat during the breeding and nesting period, a 2-mile buffer around leks should remain undisturbed (Connelly et. al. 2000).

UT-LN-49 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Nesting and Brooding Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse nesting and brooding habitat was added to Sec. 34 (all) and 35 (all) of T4S, R19E. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the species and its habitat. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

UTAH'S T&E SPECIES NOTICES

T&E-06 (Lease Notice-Mexican Spotted Owl)

The Lessee/Operator is given notice that the lands located in Sec. 1 (all), T3S, R19E is located within 0.5 miles of BLM designated good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat. The Mexican Spotted Owl is a federally listed species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Application of appropriate measures will depend whether the action is temporary or permanent, and whether it occurs within or outside the owl nesting season. A temporary action is completed prior to the following breeding season leaving no permanent structures and resulting in no permanent habitat loss. A permanent action continues for more than one breeding season and/or causes a loss of owl habitat or displaces owls through disturbances, i.e. creation of a permanent structure. Avoidance and minimization measures have been designed to ensure activities carried out on the lease are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Integration of, and adherence to mitigation measures, will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease. Additional measures to avoid or minimize effects to the species may be developed and implemented in consultation with the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service between the lease sale stage and lease development stage to ensure continued compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Parcel UT0808-086

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the portion of this parcel that is located in the S2N2 and the S2 of Section 8; and the S2NW and S2 of Section 9 of T3S, R19E due to Sage Grouse lek/nesting issues.

Sage Grouse: The S2N2 and the S2 of Section 8 of T3S, R19E; and the S2NW and S2 of Section 9 of T3S, R19E of the proposed lease parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Mosby Creek sage grouse lek. The entire parcel contains UDWR designated sage grouse brooding and wintering habitat.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range on Sec. 4 (all); Sec. 5 (all); Sec. 8 (all); Sec. 9 (all) and Sec. 10 (all) on T3S, R19E, as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat in Lots 1-3, S2NE, SENW, S2SE of Sec. 4; and NENE of Sec. 9 of T3S, R19E, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat in Lots 1-3, S2NE, NESW, S2SE of Sec. 4; and NENE of Sec. 9 of T3S, R19E, as identified in the DMRMP.

Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-44 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse brooding and wintering habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Sage Grouse and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UT-LN-46 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Lek Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse Lek habitat was added to the S2N2 and the S2 of Sec. 8; and the S2NW and S2 of Sec. 9 of T3S, R19E. Exploration, drilling, and other associated development should not be allowed from March 1st to June 15th in order to minimize disturbance to breeding sage grouse. Surface occupancy with historic or presently occupied habitat should be avoided. Permanent development near active or historically active leks should be avoided as they are often considered the focal point of year-round activities for non-migratory populations (Braun et. al. 1997). Habitat surrounding the breeding grounds provides the majority of the nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Surveys to determine presence/absence of sage grouse will be required prior to commencing work. To avoid disturbance of leks and nesting habitat during the breeding and nesting period, a 2-mile buffer around leks should remain undisturbed (Connelly et. al. 2000).

UTAH'S T&E SPECIES NOTICES

None

Parcel UT0808-087

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the portion of this parcel that is located in the S2NE and S2 of Section 7; and Sec. 18 (all), 19 (all), 20 (all), and 21 (all) of T3S, R19E due to Sage Grouse lek/nesting issues.

Sage Grouse: The S2NE and S2 of Section 7 of T3S, R19E; and Sec. 18 (all), 19 (all), 20 (all), and 21 (all) of T3S, R19E of the proposed lease parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Mosby Creek and the Lazy M sage grouse leks. The entire parcel contains UDWR designated sage grouse brooding and wintering habitat.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

This parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range on the entire parcel, as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk

winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-44 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse brooding and wintering habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Sage Grouse and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UT-LN-46 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Lek Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse Lek habitat was added to the S2NE and S2 of Section 7; and Sec. 18 (all), 19 (all), 20 (all), and 21 (all) of T3S, R19E. Exploration, drilling, and other associated development should not be allowed from March 1st to June 15th in order to minimize disturbance to breeding sage grouse. Surface occupancy with historic or presently occupied habitat should be avoided. Permanent development near active or historically active leks should be avoided as they are often considered the focal point of year-round activities for non-migratory populations (Braun et. al. 1997). Habitat surrounding the breeding grounds provides the majority of the nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Surveys to determine presence/absence of sage grouse will be required prior to commencing work. To avoid disturbance of leks and nesting habitat during the breeding and nesting period, a 2-mile buffer around leks should remain undisturbed (Connelly et. al. 2000).

Parcel UT0808-088

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the portion of this parcel that is located in the Sec. 18 (all); and Sect. 19 (all) due to Sage Grouse lek/nesting issues. In addition, deferral of the portion of this parcel located in Sec. 6 (all), and the N2NW, NE, and S2SE of Sec. 7 of T3S, R20E is recommended due to Mexican Spotted Owl issues.

Sage Grouse: Sec. 18 (all) of T3S, R20E of the proposed lease parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain North sage grouse lek. Sec. 19 (all) of T3S, R20E of the proposed lease parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain North and the Little Mountain South sage grouse leks. Sec. 6 (all); Sec. 18 (all); and Sec. 19 (all) of T3S, R20E are located in UDWR designated brooding habitat for sage grouse. The NENE of Sec. 6, T3S, R20E is located in UDWR designated winter habitat for sage grouse.

Mexican Spotted Owl: Sec. 6 (all), and the N2NW, NE, and S2SE of Sec. 7 of T3S, R20E are located within 0.5 miles of BLM designated good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat.

Deer: The S2S2 of Sec. 7, Sec. 18 (all); and Sec. 19 (all), of T3E, R20E contain UDWR designated crucial year-long habitat for mule deer. The entire parcel contains BLM designated winter range for mule deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range on Sec. 6 (all); Sec. 7 (all); Lots 1-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, and W2SE of Sec. 18; and Sec. 19 (all) in T2S, R20E, as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

UT-S-68 (No Surface Occupancy Stipulation-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)

This parcel contains a No Surface Occupancy Stipulation for Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 1, SENE, NESE of Sec. 6, T3S, R20E. No surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of Golden Eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operation of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat in for the entire parcel, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat Lots 5-7, SENW, E2SW, W2SE, SESE of Sec. 6; Sec. 7 (all); Sec. 18 (all); and Lot 3 of Sec. 19 of T3S, R20E, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-44 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse brooding and wintering habitat was added to Sec. 6 (all); Sec. 18 (all); and Sec. 19 (all); and, the NENE of Sec. 6, T3S, R20E. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Sage Grouse and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UT-LN-46 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Lek Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse Lek habitat was added to the Sec. 18 (all), and Sec. 19 (all), of T3S, R20E. Exploration, drilling, and other associated development should not be allowed from March 1st to June 15th in order to minimize disturbance to breeding sage grouse. Surface occupancy with historic or presently occupied habitat should be avoided. Permanent development near active or historically active leks should be avoided as they are often considered the focal point of year-round activities for non-migratory populations (Braun et. al. 1997). Habitat surrounding the breeding grounds provides the majority of the nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Surveys to determine presence/absence of sage grouse will be required prior to commencing work. To avoid disturbance of leks and nesting habitat during the breeding and nesting period, a 2-mile buffer around leks should remain undisturbed (Connelly et. al. 2000).

UTAH'S T&E SPECIES NOTICES

T&E-06 (Lease Notice-Mexican Spotted Owl)

The Lessee/Operator is given notice that the lands located in Sec. 6 (all), and the N2NW, NE, and S2SE of Sec. 7 of T3S, R20E are located within 0.5 miles of BLM designated good Mexican Spotted Owl habitat. The Mexican Spotted Owl is a federally listed species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Application of appropriate measures will depend whether the action is temporary or permanent, and whether it occurs within or outside the owl nesting season. A temporary action is completed prior to the following breeding season leaving no permanent structures and resulting in no permanent habitat loss. A permanent action continues for more than one breeding season and/or causes a loss of owl habitat or displaces owls through disturbances, i.e. creation of a permanent structure. Avoidance and minimization measures have been designed to ensure activities carried out on the lease are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Integration of, and adherence to mitigation measures, will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease. Additional measures to avoid or minimize effects to the species may be developed and implemented in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service between the lease sale stage and lease development stage to ensure continued compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

Parcel UT0808-089

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the entire parcel due to sage grouse lek/nesting issues.

Sage Grouse: The entire parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain North and the Little Mountain South sage grouse leks. The entire parcel is located in UDWR designated sage grouse brooding habitat.

Antelope: Sec. 30 (all); and Sec. 31 (all) of T3S, R20E of the parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range for deer and BLM designated crucial winter range on Sec. 19 (all); Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30; and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 31 of T3S, R20E for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated crucial winter range on Sec. 19 (all); Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30; and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 30 of T3S, R20E for elk.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range on Sec. 19 (all); Lots 2-4, NENE, SENW of Sec. 30; and Lots 2, 4, SESE of Sec. 30 of T3S, R20E, as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat on Sec. 19 (all); and NENE and S2NE of Sec. 30, as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-S-68 (No Surface Occupancy Stipulation-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)

This parcel contains a No Surface Occupancy Stipulation for Golden Eagle Nest Sites on Lot 6, E2SW, NWSE of Sec. 19; and Lots 2-4, SWNE, SENW of Sec. 30, T3S, R20E. No surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of Golden Eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operation of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features.

UT-LN-46 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Lek Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse Lek habitat was added to the entire parcel. Exploration, drilling, and other associated development should not be allowed from March 1st to June 15th in order to minimize disturbance to breeding sage grouse. Surface occupancy with historic or presently occupied habitat should be avoided. Permanent development near active or historically active leks should be avoided as they are often considered the focal point of year-round activities for non-migratory populations (Braun et. al. 1997). Habitat surrounding the breeding grounds provides the majority of the nesting and early brood rearing habitat. Surveys to determine presence/absence of sage grouse will be required prior to commencing work. To avoid disturbance of leks and nesting habitat during the breeding and nesting period, a 2-mile buffer around leks should remain undisturbed (Connelly et. al. 2000).

UT-LN-49 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Nesting and Brooding Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential Sage Grouse nesting and brooding habitat was added to the entire parcel. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the species and its habitat. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

Parcel UT0808-090

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the entire parcel due to raptor issues.

Antelope: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range for deer.

Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range for sheep.

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UTAHS T&E SPECIES NOTICES

T&E-03 (Lease Notice-Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin)

The Lessee/Operator is given notice that the lands in this parcel contain Critical Habitat for the Colorado River fish (bonytail, humpback chub, Colorado pikeminnow, and razorback sucker) listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, or these parcels have watersheds that are tributary to designated habitat. Critical habitat was designated for the four endangered Colorado River fishes on March 21, 1994 (59 FR 13374-13400). Designated critical habitat for all the

endangered fishes includes those portions of the 100-year floodplain that contain primary constituent elements necessary for survival of the species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Avoidance and minimization measures have been designed to ensure activities carried out on the lease are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Integration of and adherence to the measures will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease. Following these measures could reduce the scope of Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation at the permit stage.

Parcel UT0808-092

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the entire parcel due to White-tailed prairie dog and raptor issues.

Antelope: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range and BLM designated crucial range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.

White-tailed Prairie Dog: The parcel contains UDWR and BLM identified prairie dog habitat.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

None

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-05 (Lease Notice-Antelope Kidding)

The entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential antelope kidding habitat. Modifications, including seasonal restrictions from May 15 through June 20, may be required in the Surface Use Plan of Operations to protect the pronghorn during the kidding period.

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UTAHS T&E SPECIES NOTICES

None

Parcel UT0808-093

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

NOTES

Recommend deferral of the entire parcel due to White-tailed prairie dog issues.

Deer: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated substantial winter range for deer.

White-tailed Prairie Dog: The parcel contains UDWR and BLM identified prairie dog habitat.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

None

LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire parcel. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire parcel. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

UTAHS T&E SPECIES NOTICES

T&E-03 (Lease Notice-Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin)

The Lessee/Operator is given notice that the lands in this parcel contain Critical Habitat for the Colorado River fish (bonytail, humpback chub, Colorado pikeminnow, and razorback sucker) listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, or these parcels have watersheds that are

tributary to designated habitat. Critical habitat was designated for the four endangered Colorado River fishes on March 21, 1994 (59 FR 13374-13400). Designated critical habitat for all the endangered fishes includes those portions of the 100-year floodplain that contain primary constituent elements necessary for survival of the species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Avoidance and minimization measures have been designed to ensure activities carried out on the lease are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Integration of and adherence to the measures will facilitate review and analysis of any submitted permits under the authority of this lease. Following these measures could reduce the scope of Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation at the permit stage.

Special Status Species Plants and Invasive, Non-native Plant Species –

Submitted By: Clayton Newberry, Botanist

SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES

REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY: Special status (Federally threatened, endangered or candidate, and Bureau-sensitive) plant species that occur on lands within the Vernal Field Office are listed in Appendix A and are based on the US Fish and Wildlife Utah semi-annual Federally listed species list and the Utah Bureau of Land Management statewide sensitive species list (Instruction Memorandum No. UT 2003-027). Special status plant survey maps along with habitat descriptions; individual species survey publications; Utah Natural Heritage Program species occurrence records and habitat descriptions; geological maps and soil maps; ecological site descriptions for potential vegetation communities; aerial GIS data layers; and personal familiarity with the areas of the proposed activity were utilized to determine the occurrence of, or potential habitat for, special status plant species listed for the Vernal Field Office within or near the locations of the proposed lease sale parcels.

ADDITIONAL SPECIES: It is possible that non-status endemic and rare plant species and habitat may occur within some of the parcels. These species currently are not listed as special status plant species but could be in the future if loss of habitat and increased threats warrant listing. The following has been directed by the Washington Office of the BLM (WOIM No. 2002-174) to be added as a stipulation to lease parcels to provide protection to species that change in the future:

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

UTU 0808-084

Duchesne County, Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 440.00 Acres
T9S R17E (Salt Lake)

SEC 25 NE, E2NW, N2SE
SEC 35 S2SW, SWSE

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Uinta Formation. Elevation is from 5215 to 5445 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of salt desert scrub.

As far as is currently known, habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit.

One occurrence of Federally threatened Pariette cactus (*Sclerocactus brevispinus*) has been reported in T9S R17E SEC 23 SESE, approximately ½ mile west-northwest from the unit boundary in SEC 25. This SEC 23 occurrence of Pariette cactus is located so far from its main population in Pariette Draw, and is growing in so unlikely a habitat for the species, that it may represent either a waif occurrence or, more likely, a misidentification of Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wetlandicus*) or Simpson's plains cactus (*Pediocactus simpsonii*). In either case the report needs verification. Nevertheless, the report alone of this plant, so close to the OGL unit boundary, suggests the possibility that others of this species may be present in the area and/or in the unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination on Federally listed Pariette cactus or, if misidentified, Uinta Basin hookless cactus.

No other Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur near this unit.

UTU 0808-085

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1200 Acres

T3S R19E (Salt Lake)

SEC 1 W2SE

SEC 17 ALL

SEC 34 E2SE

SEC 35 E2NE, S2

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Ankareh, Mancos and Nugget Formations. Elevation is from 6600 to 7920 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of perennial grass, sagebrush, pinyon-juniper, montane brush and ponderosa pine.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-086

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 2124.48 Acres

T3S R19E (Salt Lake)

SEC 4 Lot 1-4, S2N2, SW, S2SE

SEC 5 Lot 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, SW, S2SE

SEC 7 E2NE, NESE

SEC 8 N2NE, SENE, W2, NESE, SWSE

SEC 9 E2NE, E2NW, NESW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE

SEC 10 SWSW

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Ankareh, Nugget and Woodside Formations, and Quaternary landslides, alluvium and colluvium. Elevation is from 7380 to 9100 ft amsl. Vegetation in this unit varies with geomorphology, and consists of sagebrush & perennial grasslands, cliff & canyon woodlands, subalpine dry meadows, aspen woodlands, montane conifer woodlands and Rocky Mountain evergreen forest.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-087

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 2388.71 Acres
T3S R19E (Salt Lake)

SEC 6 Lot 4-7, SENW, E2SW
SEC 7 Lot 1-4, E2NW, SESW
SEC 18 Lot 1-4, W2NE, SENE, E2W2, SE
SEC 19 Lot 1-2, NE, E2NW
SEC 20 Lot 2-3, N2, N2S2, SESE
SEC 21 N2NE, SWNE, NENW, W2W2, SESW

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Ankareh, Arapien, Dakota, Morrison, Nugget, Woodside Formations, and Quaternary landslides and colluviums. Elevation is from 6760 to 8400 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of dry meadow, sagebrush steppe, montane riparian, montane cliff & canyon and lower montane scrub.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-088

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1644.81 Acres
T3S R20E (Salt Lake)

SEC 6 ALL
SEC 7 Lot 1-2, E2, SENW, NESW
SEC 18 Lot 2-4, NE, SENW, E2SW, N2SE, SWSE
SEC 19 Lot 3-4

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Ankareh, Dakota, Morrison, Nugget, Park City and Woodland Formations, and Quaternary landslides and colluvium. Elevation is from 7140 to 8500 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of sagebrush & perennial grasslands, pinyon-juniper woodlands, montane scrub, montane cliff & canyon woodlands and evergreen forest.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-089

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1248.11 Acres
T3S R20E (Salt Lake)

SEC 19 Lot 6 SWNE, E2SW, N2SE
SEC 30 Lot 2-4 NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE
SEC 31 Lot 2-4 NENE, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Ankareh, Dakota, Mancos, Morrison and Woodside Formations, and various Quaternary landslides. Elevation is from 7200 to 8400 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of sagebrush steppe, perennial grassland, montane scrub, ponderosa pine and evergreen forest.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-090

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1340.05 Acres
T9S R29E (Salt Lake)

SEC 30 Lot 2-4 S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE
SEC 31 ALL

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Uinta Formation and Quaternary colluvium. Elevation is from 4700 to 4924 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of salt desert scrub and lower riparian / wetland woodland.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-092

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1080.00 Acres

T7S R21E (Salt Lake)

SEC 13 SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE

SEC 14 N2SW, SWSW, NWSE, S2SE

SEC 15 W2NE, SENE

SEC 22 N2SE

SEC 23 SENE, SWNW, N2SE

SEC 24 W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Uinta Formation and Quaternary alluvium. Elevation is from 4800 to 5100 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of salt desert scrub and desert grassland.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

UTU 0808-093

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 159.57 Acres

T4S R22E (Salt Lake)

SEC 26 Lot 4-5, N2SW

Surface geology in this unit consists of the Mancos Formation and Quaternary alluvium. Elevation is from 5000 to 5200 ft amsl. Vegetation consists of salt desert scrub and shale barrens.

No Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in or near this unit.

**POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE SUMMARY
SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES VFO
AUGUST 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Arabis vivariensis</i> Park rock cress	S	Uintah—Diamond Mt, Diamond Gulch Weber Fm sandstone & limestone, mixed desert shrub or PJ, 5000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Astragalus equisolensis</i> Horseshoe milkvetch	0	Uintah—Green River Horseshoe Bend, Duchesne River Fm sand & silty sand, desert shrub (ARTR2, ATCO, TETRA3), 4790-5185 ft.	None
<i>Astragalus hamiltonii</i> Hamilton milkvetch	S	Uintah—Asphalt Ridge Mowry, Dakota & Wasatch Fms Lapoint & Dry Gulch Mbrs, Duchesne Fm mixed desert shrub or PJ comm 5240-5800 ft.	None
<i>Cirsium ownbeyi</i> Ownbey thistle	S	Daggett, ne Uintah—east Uinta Mts canyons Crowe & Allen Cyns, Diamond Mt WMA PJS, desert shrub or riparian comm 5500-6200 ft.	None
<i>Cleomella palmeriana</i> var. <i>goodrichii</i> Goodrich cleomella	S	Uintah—Diamond Mt Morrison, Mancos, Tropic Fms heavy clay & shale slopes salt desert shrub comm (ATCO4, XYVE) 4000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Cryptantha barnebyi</i> Oilshale catseye	0	Uintah—south & southeast of Bonanza Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs shale slopes, semi-barren desert shrub or PJ 4600-6000 ft.	None
<i>Erigeron untermannii</i> Untermann fleabane	S	Duchesne, Uintah—West Tavaputs Plateau Green River, Uinta Fm ridges, dry calcareous shales & sandstones PJ or mountain brush comm 7000-7800 ft.	None
<i>Habenaria zothecina</i> Alcove bog-orchid	S	Uintah—"hanging garden" oases Navajo or Nugget Sandstone Fm mixed desert shrub, PJS, or oak brush comm 4360-8690 ft.	None
<i>Hymenoxys lapidicola</i> Rock bitterweed	S	Uintah—Blue Mt, Cliff Ridge Weber Fm, sandy ledges & crevices PJ or ponderosa-manzanita comm 5700-8100 ft.	None

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Lepidium barnebyanum</i> Barneby's pepperplant	E	TRIBAL—Duchesne West Tavaputs Plateau, Indian Canyon Uinta Fm, white shale outcrops & ridges barren inclusions in pinyon-juniper woodland 6200-6500 ft.	None
<i>Lepidium huberi</i> Huber pepperplant	S	Uintah—foothills, Ashley Crk, Dry Fork Chinle, Park City, Weber Fm eroding cliffs, alluvium, sandy or shaly bluffs black sage or mt brush comm (AMAL, ERICA2, ERIOG, JUOS, THRH) 5000-6400 ft.	None
<i>Mentzelia goodrichii</i> Goodrich blazingstar	S	Duchesne— Willow & Argyle Canyons Green River Fm, steep escarpments & cliffs white calcareous shale open montane brush (PJ, PIFL2, CERCO) 8100-8800 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon acaulis</i> Stemless beardtongue	S	Daggett—Browns Park Fm ashy, gravelly or sandy ridges & knolls sagebrush-desert grass or PJ comm 5840-7285 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon gibbensii</i> Gibbens beardtongue	S	Daggett—Browns Park Fm Green River Fm sandy / shaly bluffs, slopes juniper, thistle, buckwheat, serviceberry 5500-6400 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon goodrichii</i> Goodrich beardtongue	S	Duchesne, Uintah Lapoint, Tridell, Whiterocks Duchesne River Fm; clay badlands desert shrub, shadscale, PJ or mountain brush 5590 to 6215 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon grahamii</i> Graham beardtongue	S	Uintah, Duchesne oil shale outcrops throughout VFO Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs oil shale or white shale knolls & talus semi-barren mixed desert shrub or PJ comm 4600-6700 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>albifluvis</i> White River beardtongue	C	Uintah—south & southeast of Bonanza Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs shale slopes, semi-barren desert shrub or PJ 4600-6000 ft.	None
<i>Schoenocrambe argillacea</i> Clay reed-mustard	T	Uintah—canyon rims & steep slopes contact zone, Uinta-Green River Fms mixed desert shrub (ARNO4, ORHY) 5000-5650 ft.	None

SPECIES	STATUS	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Schoenocrambe suffrutescens</i> Shrubby reed-mustard	E	Duchesne, Uintah Big Pack Mt, Wrinkles Rd, Hill Crk Basin Green River Fm, calcareous shale mixed desert shrub, PJS or mountain brush (ARPY2, CEMO2, JUOS, PIED) 5400-6000 ft.	None
<i>Sclerocactus brevispinus</i> Pariette cactus	T	Duchesne—Pariette Wash south of Myton Uinta Fm, Wagonhound Mbr, alkaline clay shadscale, mat-saltbush, greasewood 4700-5400 ft.	Yes— Potential occurrence in 808-84
<i>Sclerocactus wetlandicus</i> Uinta Basin hookless cactus	T	Duchesne, Uintah—widespread in VFO alluvial benches Ouray to Carbon Co. line mixed desert shrub comm 4700-6000 ft.	Yes— Potential occurrence in 808-84
<i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> Ute ladies'-tresses	T	Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah unconsolidated alluvium riparian corridors, wetlands, wet meadows 4400-6810 ft.	None
<i>Thelesperma caespitosum</i> Uinta greenthread	S	Duchesne West Tavaputs Plateau, n slope Uinta Mts Bishop Fm, white shale benches, ridgecrests cushion plant comm above PJS & mt brush 5000-9000 ft.	None

STATUS E = Federally Endangered
 T = Federally Threatened
 C = Federal Candidate
 S = Bureau-sensitive
 0 = nonstatus, removed from status, potential status

OCCURRENCE: None = Populations, potential or suitable habitat for species are unknown in OGL units.
 Yes = Occurrences or potential occurrences are known in or near proposed OGL unit.

Water Quality –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current On Shore Orders.

These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be totally isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, it is concluded that leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.

Wilderness, Wilderness Characteristics –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

Wild and Scenic Rivers–

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the August 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.